



**PATENT APPLICATION**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Docket No: A8973

Guyton P. SWINDELL, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/607,646

Group Art Unit: 3726

Confirmation No.: 2684

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: June 27, 2003

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR TAUT SHEATH SPLICING OF ALL-DIELECTRIC, SELF-SUPPORTING FIBER OPTIC CABLE

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

1. United States Patent 6,049,648, issued April 11, 2000.
2. United States Patent 6,195,487, issued February 27, 2001.
3. United States Patent 6,236,789, issued May 22, 2001.

As all of the above references are U.S. Patents, copies are not being submitted.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

U.S. Appln. No.: 10/607,646

Atty. Docket No.: A8973

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Howard L. Bernstein  
Registration No. 25,665

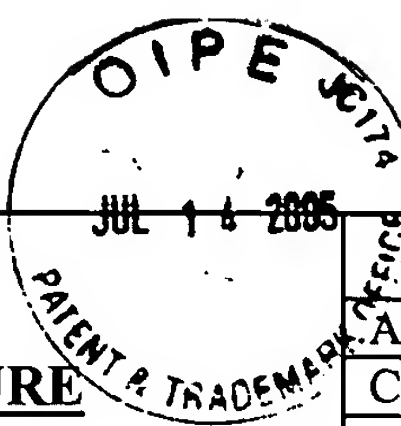
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WASHINGTON OFFICE

**23373**

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: July 14, 2005



Substitute for Form 1449 A &amp; B/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/607,646
Confirmation Number	2684
Filing Date	June 27, 2003
First Named Inventor	Guyton P. SWINDELL
Art Unit	3726
Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Attorney Docket Number	A8973

Sheet 1 of 1

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		
		US 6,049,648	A	04-11-2000	Stokes, et al.
		US 6,195,487	B1	02-27-2001	Anderson, et al.
		US 6,236,789	B1	05-22-2001	Fitz
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)			

**NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>6</sup>

Examiner Signature

Date Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov), MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.